

# Ministry of Foreign Affairs



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***Celebrating 100 years - 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022***

Dr. Gaositwe Keagakwa Tibe Chiepe  
Botswana's first female Minister of Foreign  
Affairs



His Excellency Dr. Mokgweetsi Keabetswe Masi during the State Dinner held in Honour of Dr. Gaositswe Keagakwa Tibe Chiepe to mark her centenary celebration

# Contents:

- P3 | HIGHLIGHTS OF SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER` 22 ACTIVITIES
- P13 | COURTESY CALLS ON THE MINISTER
- P16 | HIGHLIGHTS FROM MISSIONS
- P22 | STAFF UPDATES



10

17



16



# Highlights of SEP - DEC` 22

## HONOURABLE DR. KWAPE ACCOMPANIES HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT, TO THE US-AFRICA LEADERS SUMMIT IN WASHINGTON DC

**H**onourable Dr. Kwappe accompanied His Excellency Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masi, President of the Republic of Botswana, to the three-day US-Africa Leaders Summit which was held on 13<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> December 2022, in Washington, DC. Those in attendance included African Heads of State and Government; leaders from the private sector; representatives from civil society and members of the diaspora. The Summit which was hosted by President Biden, among others, explored ways of strengthening cooperation between the United States and African countries in areas such as climate change, food security, and health.





### AMBASSADOR DR. MOKHAWA CO-CHAIRS THE MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> SESSION OF THE BOTSWANA AND ZIMBABWE BI-NATIONAL COMMISSION

Ambassador Dr. Gladys Mokhawa, Permanent Secretary - Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Botswana, and Ambassador Mr. James Manzou, Permanent Secretary - Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Zimbabwe, recently co-chaired the Mid-Term Review of the two countries 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Bi-National Commission (BNC). The Meeting was held on 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>

December 2022 in Harare, Zimbabwe, and it took stock of progress made on the implementation of decisions made during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the BNC which took place in February 2022. This included reviewing progress made towards the finalisation MOUs / Agreements such as, the MoU on the *Promotion of Cooperative Development and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development*.



### AMBASSADOR MARIBE ATTENDS EVENT MARKING THE 59<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA



Ambassador Clifford Maribe, Deputy Permanent Secretary - Bilateral Diplomacy, attended an event marking the 59<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Independence of the Republic of Kenya, on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022. At the event, Ambassador Maribe extended his best wishes to the Government and people of Kenya for the momentous occasion celebrating the country's independence anniversary. He also expressed appreciation for the excellent relations and fruitful cooperation that exist between Kenya and Botswana. The event was hosted in Gaborone by the High Commissioner of Kenya to Botswana, His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Shidiye.



### DR. KWAPE PARTICIPATES AT THE 115<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE OACPS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

From 27<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022, Honourable Dr. Lemogang Kwape, Minister of Foreign Affairs, participated at the 115<sup>th</sup> Session of the Organisation of the African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) Council of Ministers. The Session which was held in Brussels, Belgium, discussed strategic, operational, financial and administrative issues and concluded with an adoption of eight decisions and one resolution. The Session also prepared for the 10th Summit of the OACPS Heads of State and Government which took place on 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> December 2022, in Luanda, Angola.

### Ambassador Dr. Gladys Mokhawa assumes rotational Chairship on behalf of Botswana for the 21<sup>st</sup> Regional Seminar on the Implementation of the International Humanitarian Law



Ambassador Dr. Gladys Mokhawa, Permanent Secretary - Ministry of Foreign Affairs assumed Chairship of the 21<sup>st</sup> Regional Seminar on the Implementation of the international Humanitarian Law (IHL) during the Regional Seminar held in Pretoria, South Africa on 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> November 2022. The Seminar was attended by 18 countries and regional organisations to review the status of IHL Implementation at national level. The rotational Chairship role which was assumed on behalf of Botswana is for one year. The Chair is expected to among others, implement the outcomes of the 2022 regional seminar.

## “PROMOTING RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY OF TRANSPORT SYSTEMS IN LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES”

*In his capacity as Chair of the Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Honourable Dr. Lemogang Kwape delivered the statement below on behalf of LLDCs on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022 in Sharm - El-Sheikh during COP27:*

**Mr. Moderator, Ambassador Kelapile; Excellencies; Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.**

At the outset, allow me to express my sincere gratitude to the UN Under-Secretary General and High Representative for OHRLLS, Ms. Rabab Fatima, and Secretary General of UNCTAD, Ms Rebecca Grynspan, for co-organising this event with the Government of Botswana, in our capacity as Chair of the Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs).

I also recognise and thank the Acting Executive Secretary of UNECA, Mr. Antonio Pedro; my Dear Brother Mangaliso Ndlovu, Minister of Environment, Climate, Tourism and Hospitality Industry of Zimbabwe; and other Distinguished Speakers, for joining us today.

### **Excellencies,**

The topic of promoting resilience and sustainability of transport systems is close to the hearts of the Group of LLDCs, and is even more critical now as we continue efforts to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is undeniable that due to the unique and peculiar challenges of our Group of countries, including as a result of our lack of access to the sea and isolation from global markets, the LLDCs have experienced much more disruptions in their transit transport systems.

Furthermore, the increased frequency and heightened intensity of climate change-induced disasters that our countries face, such as flooding, storms, drought, cyclones, heatwaves, are badly affecting the state of our roads, rail infrastructure, inland waterways, ports and airports.



These climate change related impacts also accelerate the aging of critical transport infrastructure in LLDCs -- in particular roads, which are the main modes of transport of our goods to the global markets.

### **Excellencies,**

Considering the importance of improved connectivity for LLDCs, addressing the impact of climate change on our transport infrastructure is essential.

Development of climate-resilient and sustainable infrastructure will help LLDCs reduce the direct losses of disruptions caused by climate change. It should also serve as a foundation for economic development and sustainable growth through ease of access to global markets. Financing must also be scaled up significantly to support our adaptation needs.

### **Excellencies,**

The impacts of climate change also affect our transit developing countries. International support is therefore important to enhance regional integration and reduce the financial burden on our individual countries.

For our part as the LLDCs, we should actively engage at the COP27 in a way that will enhance our collective voice to advance our interests, especially with regard to vulnerability, mitigation and adaptation.

### **Mr. Moderator, Honourable Ministers,**

Allow me to conclude with best wishes for successful deliberations. We look forward to working very closely with all stakeholders in thematic discussions such as these, as we prepare for the Third United Nations Conference on LLDCs, to be held in 2024.

**I thank you.**

# Botswana partners with the UN to commemorate UN day



**T**he Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the United Nations Botswana Office co-hosted a public event to commemorate UN Day on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2022. Since 1948, UN Day has been commemorated on 24<sup>th</sup> October to mark the anniversary of the year the UN Charter came into force in 1945.

The programme for the day included a dialogue session with Honourable Dr. Kwape, Minister of Foreign Affairs and His Excellency Mr. Zia Choudhury, UN Resident Coordinator; scene setting and remarks by Dr. Gladys Mokhawa, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and remarks from a youth representative and Climate Change Advocate, Ms. Pato Kelesitse.

The event which was held under the theme, “Leveraging Botswana’s membership to the United Nations – the Impact of Climate Change on Local Livelihoods,” explored Botswana’s UN story and key milestones realised such as Botswana’s tenure as President of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC); the role of UN in Botswana, climate change and Botswana’s participation at the upcoming 27th Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC (COP27) in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.



## BOTSWANA-INDIA BILATERAL RELATIONS



From 16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2022, Honourable Dr. Lemogang Kwape, undertook a working visit to New Delhi, India, at the invitation of his counterpart, Honourable Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India. While in India, the two Ministers exchanged views on bilateral, regional, and international issues of common interest. They pledged to promote and strengthen relations between their countries through various bilateral mechanism such as, the Joint Ministerial Commission. Following the Ministers' official talks, Honourable Kwape met with Batswana students studying at The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Gujarat State.

Honourable Dr. Kwape also had the opportunity to meet with the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Honourable Narendra Singh Tomar, in New Delhi where they discussed ways of strengthening cooperation in the agriculture sector. Further, Minister Kwape, met with various representatives from the health sector including those in the pharmaceutical industry in New Delhi. He also toured the Apollo Hospital facility where among others, he proposed for enhanced cooperation between Botswana and India's medical institutions.



## AMBASSADOR DR. GLADYS MOKHAWA DELVERS KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT THE 99<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROCLAMATION OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC



Ambassador Dr. Gladys Mokhawa, Permanent Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs, delivered a keynote address at the 99<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Proclamation of the Republic of Turkey celebration, hosted by Her Excellency Ms. Meltem Büyükkarakaş, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Botswana. The event took place on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022. In her address, Dr. Mokhawa congratulated the Turkish Government and people on the occasion of the National Day. She also noted with appreciation the excellent bilateral relations that subsist between Botswana and Turkey since establishing relations in 1981. She further expressed appreciation for the enhanced cooperation between the two countries such as in the areas of education, trade and investment.

## DINNER HELD IN HONOUR OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS, COUNTESS OF WESSEX

On 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Honourable Dr. Lemogang Kwape hosted a dinner in honour of Her Royal Highness, Countess of Wessex, who was in Botswana for a four-day visit. Among others, during her visit, Her Royal Highness participated at the official launch of the Pono Yame Project in Kweneng and the commemoration event for World Sight Day.



## THE PERMANENT SECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS MEETS WITH THE OUTGOING AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN

On 4<sup>th</sup> October 2022, the outgoing Ambassador of Japan to Botswana, His Excellency Mr. Takashi Hoshiyama, paid a farewell courtesy call on the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Dr. Gladys Mokhawa.

The Permanent Secretary thanked the Ambassador for his dedication and contribution towards Botswana's national development agenda. She appreciated the active role that he played in strengthening the relationship between Japan and the Republic of Botswana during his tenure. For his part, His Excellency Mr. Takashi Hoshiyama, thanked the Government of



Botswana for all the support and assistance provided to him during his stay. He expressed appreciation for the excellent relations that subsist between Botswana and Japan.

## HONOURABLE DR. KWAPE ATTENDS CELEBRATIONS OF THE 32<sup>ND</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF GERMAN REUNIFICATION

Honourable Dr. Lemogang Kwape, Minister of Foreign Affairs, attended an event marking the 32<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of German reunification, on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022. The event was hosted by the Ambassador of Germany to Botswana, Her Excellency Mrs. Margit Hellwig-Boette. At the event, Honourable Dr. Kwape extended Botswana's best wishes to the German Government and citizens for the momentous occasion celebrating German unity.

The Minister also expressed appreciation for the fruitful relations that subsist between Botswana and Germany which are underpinned by the shared values of democratic principles, human rights and the rule of law. Further, the Minister thanked the German Government for the assistance it has extended to Botswana over the years such as in the health, agriculture and education sectors.





# DR. GAOSITSWE KEAGAKWA TIBE CHIEPE CENTENARY CELEBRATION

**O**n 25<sup>th</sup> October 2022, a State Dinner was held in Honour of Dr. Gaositswe Keagakwa Tibe Chiepe to mark her centenary celebration. Dr Chiepe served as Botswana's first female Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1984-1994. Below is a summary of her biography.

Chiepe is celebrated for the plethora of contributions she made in spearheading a foreign policy agenda that among others, promoted democracy; good governance; respect for the rule of law and human rights; as well as, advocated for the protection of Botswana's national territory, institutions, and citizens. Moreover, as Foreign Minister, she is remembered for key roles she played such as being Botswana's voice that challenged the apartheid regime in South Africa, and called for the right to self-determination of peoples and independence.

Order of King Sobhuza II (Eswatini). In addition, she was awarded the Presidential Order of Merit and the Presidential Order of Meritorious Service. Other recognitions include honorary degrees from Universities of Bristol, DePaul, Chicago, and Fort Hare. Further, she has received awards which include the Commander of Royal Order of Polar Star from the King of Sweden, and Membership with the Order of the British Empire.

### National icon – local and international recognition

In addition to being celebrated as a national icon her life of service to Botswana and fellow country women and men, Dr. Chiepe's has also been recognised globally for her work. She is a recipient of national Honours from both the United Kingdom and Botswana, and was named Chief Councillor of the Royal

### Botswana's priceless diamond

For Botswana, Dr. Chiepe is an invaluable national treasure. She is an exemplary citizen and leader who's lived experiences vividly depict her contributions towards the country's nation building and national development agenda. In marking her centenary celebration, her life story presents Botswana at large, lifelong lessons on service and love for country. Her legacy is one to be much appreciated and celebrated.

## DR CHIEPE'S STATE DINNER in pictures

# Her Story

CELEBRATING DR. CHIEPE

*Nation Builder, Inspirational Leader, Role Model, A Woman of Valour ...*

### Early years and academic journey

Dr. Gaositwe Keagakwa Tibe Chiepe was born on 20th October 1922 in Serowe in the then British Protectorate of Bechuanaland. Her academic journey started in Serowe where she attended primary school, and thereafter she continued her secondary education at Tiger Kloof Educational Institute in South Africa. Subsequently, she remained in South Africa for her tertiary education where she was enrolled at Fort Hare University. At Fort Hare she was the first black African female to graduate with a Bachelor of Science Degree as well as a Postgraduate Diploma in Education. An astute scholar, she went on to complete her graduate studies at the University of Bristol in the United Kingdom where she obtained a Master's degree.

### Servant leader for Fatshe leno la rona

Dr. Chiepe's professional journey commenced with the Bechuanaland Protectorate Government with the Department of Education, as an Education Officer. At the time, she was one of the only two Africans appointed to an administrative position by the colonial government. As a committed and hard-working civil servant, she rose up the ranks at the Department of Education to the level of Director of Education.

In the new dawn of a nascent Botswana Republic, in 1970, Dr. Chiepe was appointed as the Republic's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom. In addition to serving in the United Kingdom, she was also concurrently accredited to several countries including Nigeria, France, Denmark, Belgium

and Sweden. In her capacity as one of Botswana's leading diplomats, Dr. Chiepe was instrumental in advancing Botswana's national interests at the bilateral, regional and multilateral platforms including actively participating in negotiations with the European Economic Community (EEC) for market access for Botswana products such as export of Botswana beef to the European market.

As a national leader of many firsts, Dr. Chiepe was appointed as Botswana's first female Cabinet Minister in 1974, serving as the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. She also held the portfolio of Minister of Trade and Industry. At the Foreign Ministry, she was appointed as the Ministry's first female Minister from 1984-1994. In this capacity, Dr.





# BOTSWANA-NAMIBIA BILATERAL RELATIONS



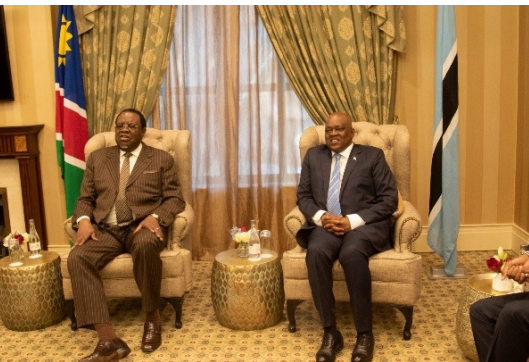
## Inaugural Session of the Botswana - Namibia Bi- National Commission (BNC)



The Inaugural Session of the Botswana-Namibia Bi-National Commission (BNC) took place on 09<sup>th</sup> September 2022, in Gaborone, Botswana. Among others, the BNC afforded the two countries a platform to discuss bilateral issues of mutual interest and explore additional potential areas for cooperation.

At the conclusion of the Inaugural BNC, a number of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) were agreed upon. These include:

- Rules of Procedure to Govern the Meetings of the Botswana-Namibia Bi-National Commission;
- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Cooperation in the area of Trade, Industrial Development and Investment;
- Bilateral Agreement establishing One-Stop Border Post (OSBP) at Mamuno and Trans Kalahari Border Posts;
- Agreement on the Interstate Transfer of Sentenced Persons;
- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Cooperation in the Field of Sport Development;
- MoU on Archival Development, Historical Research and Records Management; and
- MoU on Cooperation in the Agricultural, Livestock and Agri-food Sector.



# Courtesy calls on Dr. Kwape

## CUBA'S AMBASSADOR PAYS A COURTESY CALL ON HONOURABLE DR. KWAPE

The Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba, His Excellency Mr. Orlando Alvarez, paid a courtesy call on Honourable Dr. Lemogang Kwape, Minister of Foreign Affairs on 11 November 2022. The two discussed bilateral and multilateral issues of mutual interest and also noted with appreciation the cordial relations that exist between Botswana and Cuba. Botswana and Cuba established diplomatic relations in 1977 and enjoy fruitful cooperation in a number of areas such as health and education.



## DELEGATION OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT FROM MOZAMBIQUE PAY A COURTESY CALL ON HONOURABLE DR. LEMOGANG KWAPE

On 07<sup>th</sup> October 2022, a delegation of Members of Parliament from Mozambique, paid a courtesy call on the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Honourable Dr. Lemogang Kwape. The delegation which was headed by Honourable Cernilde Amélia Muchanga de Mendoca, was on a Benchmarking Visit to Botswana. During the meeting, the delegation indicated that through the visit, it sought to learn best practices in a number of areas, including the role of Parliament in revenue, fiscal policies and tax regimes.

The delegation also thanked Botswana for the support rendered to Mozambique in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism in Cabo Delgado, through the SADC Mission in Mozambique (SAMIM). Among others, on his part, Honourable Dr. Kwape noted with appreciation the close ties and excellent cooperation that exists between Botswana and Mozambique. The Minister wished the delegation a successful visit.

## UNDER-SECRETARY AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME PAYS A COURTESY CALL ON HONOURABLE DR. LEMOGANG KWAPE



assistance that UN-Habitat provides to Botswana as was the case with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11 Monitoring and Reporting Project 2018/19, and the Preparation of Chobe District Settlement Development Strategy, 2003.

The Minister also underscored Botswana's interest for enhanced collaboration with UN-Habitat in various areas, including land management and affordable housing. Furthermore, the Minister and Executive Director discussed the establishment of a UN-Habitat project office in Botswana, which the Minister implored would benefit Botswana through employment creation opportunities.



On 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022, the Under-Secretary and Executive Director of United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), Madam Maimunah Mohd Sharif, paid a Courtesy Call on the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Honourable Dr. Lemogang Kwaape.

The Executive Director was in Botswana to among others, appreciate UN-Habitat's work in the country and explore ways Botswana can be assisted to further the urban development agenda. When meeting the Executive Director, Honourable Dr. Kwaape expressed gratitude for the technical



## MINISTRY OF JUSTICE PERMANENT SECRETARY PAYS A FAREWELL COURTESY CALL ON HONOURABLE DR. KWAPE

Mr. Gaeimelwe Goitseman, Permanent Secretary - Ministry of Justice, paid a farewell courtesy call on the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Honourable Dr. Lemogang Kwaape on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022. Mr. Goitseman will undertake a new role with the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) on 1st January 2023. The JIU is an independent oversight body of the UN system that is mandated to conduct evaluations, inspections and investigations across the UN system to enhance coordination, governance and administrative efficiency.

## New Envoys to Botswana Present Copies of Letters of Credence

During the month of September 2022, Honourable Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Lemogang Kwaape, received copies of Letters of Credence from new Envoys from nine (9) countries and the European Union. The Envoys included High Commissioner-Designate of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Lovell Macio Michael Francis, High Commissioner-Designate of the Republic of Ghana, Mr. Yakubu Alhassan, Ambassador-Designate of the State of Israel, Ms. Ofra Farhi, Ambassador-Designate of Thailand, Mr. Mungkorn Pratoomkaew, Ambassador-Designate of the Delegation of European Union, Ms. Petra Pereyra, Ambassador-Designate of the Hellenic Republic, Mr. Georgios Aravositas; High Commissioner-Designate of New Zealand, Dr. Emma Rebecca Dunlop - Bennet; Ambassador Designate of Mexico, Ms. Sara Valdes Bolano; and High Commissioner Designate of the Republic of Singapore, Mr. Zainal Arif Mantaha.



H.E Mr. Mungkorn Pratoomkaew, Ambassador-Designate of Thailand



H.E Dr. Lovell Macio Michael Francis, High Commissioner-Designate of Trinidad and Tobago



H.E Dr. Emma Rebecca Dunlop - Bennet, High Commissioner-Designate of New Zealand



H.E Mr. Zainal Arif Mantaha, High Commissioner Designate of Singapore



H.E Mr. Yakubu Alhassan, High Commissioner-Designate of Ghana



H.E Ms. Ofra Farhi, Ambassador-Designate of the State of Israel



H.E Mr. Georgios Aravositas, Ambassador-Designate of the Hellenic Republic

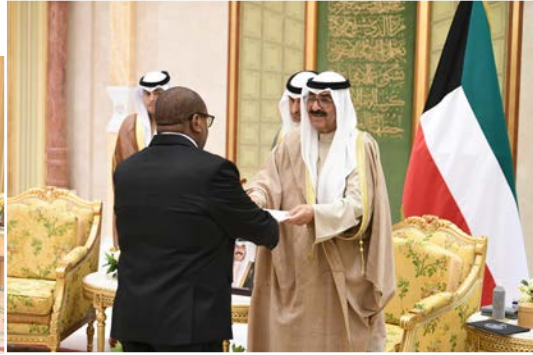


H.E Ms. Petra Pereyra, Ambassador-Designate of the Delegation of European Union



H.E Ms. Sara Valdes Bolano, Ambassador Designate of Mexico

### Botswana Mission in Kuwait



On 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022, HE Ambassador Mr. Augustine Ntshomane Makgonatsotlhe presented his Letters of Credence to His Highness the Crown Prince of the State of Kuwait Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah

### Botswana Consulate General in Johannesburg

The Botswana Consul General Mr. Lesedi Thema, attended the 6<sup>th</sup> Nation Brand Forum, hosted by Brand South Africa on 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022. The Forum's main purpose was to constructively reflect on issues and formulate solutions to drive the nation's image, competitiveness and reputation. This year's theme was 'Grow with South Africa: An inclusive partnership to re-build the economy and drive the nation's competitiveness'.

The Consul General was amongst a select few panellists on Day 2 of the Forum together with notable personalities and dignitaries such as Prof JJ Tabane, Ms. Sithembile Ntombela (Acting: Chief Executive Officer, Brand South

Africa) Mr. Muzi Kuzwayo (South Africa's Promise), Ms. Seanice Lojede (Blue Flamingo), Ms. Margareth Gustavo (Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board) moderated by Mr. Thebe Ikalafeng.

The roundtable panel discussions centred around best practices and lessons on building a nation's reputation and competitiveness as a catalyst for driving investment, tourism and trade exploring collaborations within the context of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to deepen economic integration of Africa and shaping the greater African narrative.

### Botswana Mission in Japan

#### THE EMBASSY OF BOTSWANA IN JAPAN CELEBRATES BOTSWANA'S 56<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL DAY ANNIVERSARY

On 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022, the Embassy celebrated the 56<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Botswana's Independence at Miyako Hotel, in Tokyo. Invited guests included the guest of honour Honourable Kei Takagi, Vice Parliamentary Minister for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, members of the diplomatic corps, government dignitaries, corporate and business people as well as, friends of Botswana.

Addressing invited guests, His Excellency Maj. Gen. Ambassador Morake (Rtd) reaffirmed the cordial bilateral relations that co-exist between Botswana and Japan

based on long standing shared values of mutual respect, democracy, the rule of law, respect for international law and human rights. This, he indicated is signified by the increase of placement of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) volunteers in Botswana, particularly in rural areas and the increased number of tourists that visited Botswana prior to covid-19 pandemic.

Ambassador Morake also highlighted the importance of the TICAD 8 framework to Botswana, particularly the pillars on economic development, building resilient societies, peace and stability. Botswana

intends to take advantage of the forum to attain its development aspirations.

Further, the Ambassador invited Japanese businesses to invest in Botswana as the country is highly rated by international credit rating agencies as a good place to do business.

On his part, Honourable Kei Takagi, expressed gratitude to the Ambassador for the invitation and indicated that both

countries are good friends and that he looked forward to relations growing from strength to strength.

During the reception, promotional tourism videos were played to showcase Botswana's tourism attractions and investment potential.

Later in the evening, Ambassador Morake had the opportunity to host Botswana living in Japan and friends of Botswana.

#### BOTSWANA PARTICIPATES AT TOURISM EXPO JAPAN (TEJ)

On 22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> September 2022, Botswana Embassy in Japan in conjunction with eleven (11) resident SADC Embassies in Tokyo participated in the Tourism EXPO Japan (TEJ), as part of efforts to promote tourism in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region.

As the chair of the SADC Group of Ambassadors Sub-committee on Tourism, Culture and Media, the Mission was charged with organizing and facilitating the participation of all the SADC Embassies in the EXPO. Botswana is deputized by Namibia.

TEJ is an annual event organized by Japan Association of Travel Agents (JATA), Japan Travel and Tourism Association (JTTA) and Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO).

The Mission held meetings with travel agents, some of which had interest to include Botswana in their tour packages while others had previously organized trips to Botswana prior to covid-19. The event was attended by 124,047 people, with the participation of 1,018 companies from seventy-eight (78) countries.

#### AMBASSADOR MORAKE ATTENDS BRIEFING MEETING BY THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION, DR NALEDI PANDOR

On the 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022, Ambassador Maj. Gen. Gotsileene Morake attended a briefing session by the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa, Dr. Naledi Pandor. The briefing was organised for SADC Embassies by the Embassy of the Republic of South Africa in Japan.

#### BOTJAP PARTICIPATES AT THE MINATO CITIZENS FESTIVAL

On 8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> October 2022, the Embassy participated at the 41<sup>st</sup> Minato Citizens Festival International Friendship Square, held in Minato Ward, in Tokyo, Japan. The festival is an annual event attracting around 200,000 visitors, and features a vast range of food vendors, traditional/cultural demonstrations, a parade & children's activities.

The Embassy participated in the event, with the aim to promote Botswana tourism and culture. To this end, the Mission distributed tourism promotional material and displayed some Botswana crafts including baskets and ostrich eggs.

The Embassy Staff was able to engage with some Japan nationals who had previously visited Botswana as tourists and were considering visiting again.

## Botswana Mission in Australia

### BOTSWANA MISSION IN AUSTRALIA HOSTS THE 56<sup>TH</sup> INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

On 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022, the Mission hosted the 56th Independence Day Celebrations in its Multipurpose Hall (Pula Hall). The event was graced by the Chief of Protocol of the Commonwealth of Australia, Mr. Ian McConville as the Guest of Honour. Close to two hundred and fifty (250) invited guests from Diplomatic Corps, Batswana, friends of Botswana, Botswana Honorary Consuls, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Commonwealth of Australia, International Organizations, Academic institutions, Botswana Mission stakeholders and media also attended the event. The event accorded the Mission an opportunity to showcase Botswana’s cultural heritage in song and dance, traditional cuisine, as well as tourism and investment opportunities.



### SIGNING OF BOOK OF CONDOLENCE

Following the passing on of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022, High Commissioner of the Republic of Botswana to the Commonwealth of Australia, Her Excellency Ms. Dorcas Makgato signed a Book of Condolences in remembrance of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at Parliament House in Canberra, Australia. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was the Head of State of the Commonwealth of Australia.



The Honourable Anthony Albanese MP, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia and the Chief of Protocol of the Commonwealth of Australia, Mr. Ian McConville welcoming Her Excellency Ms. Dorcas Makgato, High Commissioner of the Republic of Botswana to the Commonwealth of Australia during the signing of the Book of Condolences.

### AFRICA DOWN UNDER CONFERENCE (ADU) AND AUSTRALIA AFRICA WEEK, 29<sup>th</sup> AUGUST-04<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022, PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The Mission of Botswana in Australia, participated at the 21st Edition of the Africa Down Under (ADU) Conference and the Africa Week which was held from 29th August to 4th September 2022 in Perth, Western Australia. The purpose of the Africa Down Under (ADU) Conference was to raise awareness of available investment opportunities in Africa, especially in the mining sector.

During the Plenary Sessions, representatives of Governments, notably Ministers made presentations to sell their countries and highlight key investment opportunities in the mining sector. Mining companies who are investing in Africa also made presentations to highlight the successes, challenges and suggestions on how to improve the business climate in order to make it conducive for Africa to attract significant foreign direct investment.

In addition to enhancing value to the Africa-Australia relations, ADU forms the principal pillar of the “Africa Week”, Australia’s week long celebration of the strong and growing business, social and

cultural ties between Australia and the entire African continent. The Mission participated in two activities to mark the Africa Week namely Australia Africa Universities Network (AAUN) Forum and High Level Roundtable Meeting with the Vice Chancellor Professor Harlene Hayne Curtin University. The high level roundtable discussion focused on areas of potential collaboration and partnership in research and higher education between Curtin University and Institutions of higher learning of African Countries, aimed at identifying areas of collaboration and mutual interest in the education and research sectors.

The Mission of Botswana in Australia also had the opportunity to meet with the various companies to discuss potential investment opportunities in the mining and energy sectors. These included Sandfire Resources which is currently operating Motheo Mine in Ghanzi.

### HIGH COMMISSIONER MAKGATO MEETS THE NEW SOUTH WALES MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

On 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022 the New South Wales Minister of Agriculture Hon. Dugald Saunders held a meeting with Her Excellency Ms Dorcas Makgato at the Chancery. This was an introductory meeting by the new Minister following the High Commissioner’s meeting with his predecessor, Honourable Adam Marshall in 2021. In her welcoming remarks, the High Commissioner thanked the Honourable Minister for his visit and gave a brief overview of Botswana with emphasis on the Agricultural sector. She thanked the Minister for the fruitful cooperation with the New South Wales Rural Fire Services on Fire and Disaster Management and expressed interest in cooperating with the State of New South Wales (NSW) Government in the area of agriculture particularly the use of technology and innovation to improve efficiency in the sector in order to contribute to the economy and food security in Botswana.

High Commissioner Makgato reiterated her interest to visit research programs in the NSW that include Aquaculture, Post-harvest treatments for grain; Cattle breeding project including genetic selection and feed regimes; Traceability and tracking technology for cattle movement and ownership and Horticulture production using precision watering, fertigation. The High Commissioner suggested that the Honourable Minister should visit Botswana to further relations and also meet with relevant stakeholders in the Agricultural sector. The Mission would be ready to facilitate this visit.



Hon. Dugald Saunders, New South Wales Minister of Agriculture pays a courtesy call on Her Excellency Ms. Dorcas Makgato, High Commissioner of the Republic of Botswana to the Commonwealth of Australia

## Botswana Mission in the People`s Republic of China

### Botswana Embassy in Beijing Celebrates Botswana 56<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Independence

The Embassy celebrated Botswana’s 56th Anniversary of Independence on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022. Among others, in attendance were members of the diplomatic corps in Beijing and Chinese business representatives. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China was represented by Mr. Jiang Zhouteng, Director, Africa Department.

At the event, Ms. Nomsa D. Mlotshwa, Charge d’Affaires a.i. at the Botswana Embassy made National Day remarks highlighting the development progress Botswana has made since its Independence in 1966. She referred to various Government policies put in place, now driven by the Reset and Reclaim Agenda, to ensure the country’s recovery from the impact of the Covid pandemic and place Botswana on a better development growth path. She also touched on the excellent bilateral relations with the People’s Republic of China, expressing Botswana’s appreciation for the support and assistance rendered Botswana over the years. Ms. Mlotshwa concluded by reiterating the Government of Botswana’s support for the One China Policy.



## Botswana Mission participates at the dialogue convened by the Chinese Communist Party

On 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022, Liu Jianchao, the Honourable Minister of the International Liaison Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, held a collective exchange and dialogue with African diplomatic envoys in Beijing.

The gathering touched on the role of the Party in China's Africa Diplomacy, as well as looking at party-to-party relationships, under the theme of shared modernization and development.

Minister Liu Jianchao noted that China and Africa remained good friends, having stood together in very trying times. He pointed out that, under the able leadership of His Excellency, President Xi Jinping, China and Africa continue to actively promote the implementation of global development initiatives and global security initiatives; safeguard the common interests of developing countries side by side; and lead the building of a global community with a shared future for mankind.



刘建超部长与非洲国家驻华使节集体合影



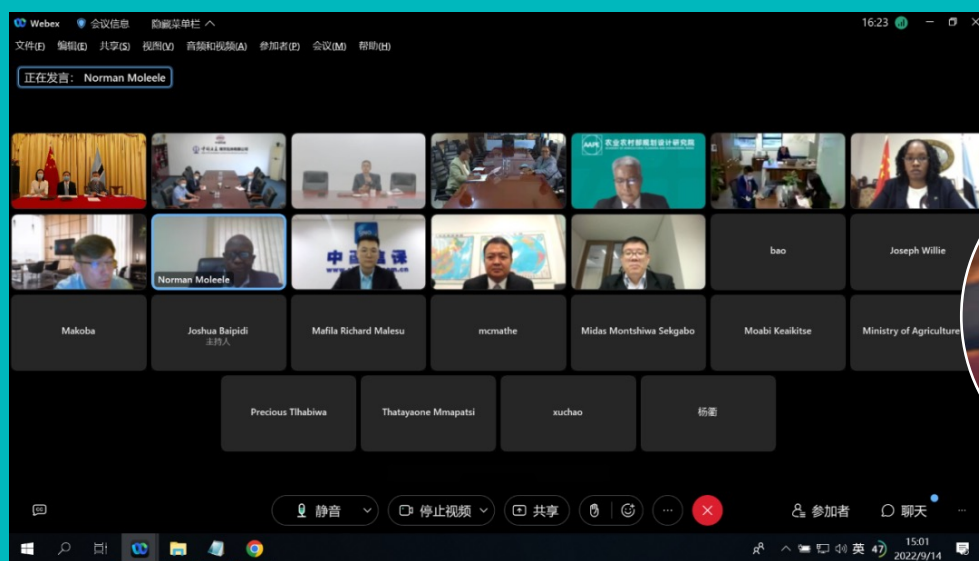
## Launching of the Setswana Language Proficiency Course

On 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022, the Embassy of the Republic of Botswana attended an online opening ceremony for a first Setswana Language Proficiency Course being offered at the Beijing Foreign Studies University. In attendance were members and students at the Beijing Foreign Studies University, a representative from the University of Botswana's Languages Department, and a representative of the Botswana Confucius Institute. Also present was Ms. Aoyun Bao, a Chinese citizen who had studied the Setswana Language at the University of Botswana and is now the Setswana Language lecturer in Beijing.

This is the first time the Setswana Language Proficiency Course is being offered in China, a success attributed to the good bilateral relations between the two countries, as well as excellent collaboration between the University of Botswana and the Beijing Foreign Studies University.

Trade and technical cooperation have always been a driving force between Botswana and the People's Republic of China, with China being one of Botswana's major trading partners. The recent launching of the Setswana Language Proficiency Course has thus proved a great feat for the two countries as they strive to boost more people-to-people interactions, as well as expand the educational and cultural exchanges. It is also pleasing to note that, as at the end of September 2022, at least 6 Chinese students had signed up for the Setswana Proficiency Course. In response, the Embassy has extended an offer of assistance to the Beijing Foreign Studies University in terms of facilitating the students practising Setswana and interacting in Setswana culture.

## Online Seminar on the outcome of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation



to the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, a platform through which both China and Africa can advance and further deepen their strategic partnerships in a very comprehensive manner. It was hoped that the Webinar would enable participants a better understanding of the opportunities available in the nine programmes, as well as how to get access to financing for these, particularly under the Poverty Reduction and Agricultural Development Programme, the Trade Promotion Programme, the Investment Promotion Programme, the Digital Innovation Programme and the Cultural and People-to-People Exchange Programme.



On 14<sup>th</sup> September 2022, the Embassy participated in an online Webinar focusing on the outcomes of the 8th Ministerial Conference on the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, and how Botswana and Batswana could benefit from opportunities under the nine identified programmes. Keynote addresses were given by Ambassador Mmamosadinyana Molefe, then acting as the Permanent Secretary, also the Deputy Permanent Secretary, Multilateral Diplomacy, Research and Policy Analysis, and His Excellency, Ambassador

Wang Xuefeng of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China.

Both keynote speakers touched on the excellent bilateral relations subsisting between the Republic of Botswana and the People's Republic of China. Ambassador Molefe thanked the People's Republic of China for its long-term selfless assistance and valuable support to, not only Africa, but also Botswana's economic and social development agenda. She further indicated that Botswana attaches great importance

The online Webinar was organised by the Department of Asia and Pacific Affairs in collaboration with the Embassy of the Republic of Botswana in Beijing and the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Gaborone. Close to forty (40) participants from various departments of the Government, Botswana private sector companies, as well as relevant Chinese industries and financial institutions took part in the online Webinar. Experts and scholars from China's agriculture, new energy, digital economy, finance and other fields made special speeches on the possible pragmatic cooperation between China and Botswana.

## Botswana Mission in Brazil

AMBASSADOR TEBOGO MOTSHOME PRESENTS HER CREDENTIALS TO HIS EXCELLENCY ALBERTO ÁNGEL FERNÁNDEZ, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA



Ambassador Tebogo Motshome presented her Credentials to H.E. Alberto Ángel Fernández, President of the Republic of Argentina on 29th August 2022 in Buenos Aires. The Ambassador is accredited to Argentina on a non-resident status.

## HIGH COMMISSIONER-DESIGNATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, Dr. Monageng championed human rights issues as a member of the Commission (2003-2009) and Chairperson (2007).

Both nationally and internationally, she has gained recognition for her contribution to the promotion of human rights, the rule of law and international justice. Accordingly, she has received a number of awards, including the Human Rights Award from the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ) in 2014, and the Presidential Order of Honour in 2013 for her outstanding service to Botswana.

Her other international assignments include serving with the High Courts of The Gambia and Eswatini, the United Nations Observer Mission to South Africa; as well as being seconded to the Law Societies of England and Wales, and Zimbabwe. Through her professional membership with organisations such as the International Commission of Jurists; International Commission on Missing Persons; and International Association of Refugee Law Judges; Dr. Monageng has also actively been engaged in international justice issues. Most recently, she served as a Judge with the Southern African Development Community Administrative Tribunal, including holding the position of President (2022) and Vice President (2020-2022) of the Tribunal.

With over two decades of service in the legal field, High Commissioner-Designate Dr. Monageng has contributed extensively to the legal profession in Botswana. Among others, she played an instrumental role in spearheading a continuing legal education programme for lawyers. In addition, from 1997-2002, she was the founding Chief Executive Officer of the Law Society of Botswana and is currently the President of the Botswana Competition and Consumer Tribunal. Her contributions towards Botswana's development agenda include those realised through her membership to various Boards and Associations, such as the National Association of Women Judges, as well as the leadership portfolios she holds, which include Chairship of the Gender Commission of Botswana.

High Commissioner-Designate Dr. Monageng takes over from High Commissioner Ms. Tshenolo Clairinah Modise.

**H**is Excellency Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetshe Masisi, President of the Republic of Botswana, has appointed Judge Dr. Sanji Mmasenono Monageng, as the High Commissioner-Designate of the Republic of Botswana to the Republic of South Africa.

Dr. Monageng has a wealth of experience in international law practice particularly in the humanitarian and human rights fields where, among others, she has served at the International Criminal Court (ICC), and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. At the ICC her roles included serving as the Appeals Division Judge (2012-2018), and as the First Vice-President of the ICC (2012-2015), where she covered crimes against humanity, war crimes, and genocide. During her tenure with the

## HEADS OF MISSION REASSIGNED TO NEW DIPLOMATIC POSTS



H.E. Dr. Batlang Comma Serema



H.E. Ms. Mmasekgoa Masire-Mwamba

During October 2022, the following Heads of Mission were reassigned to new Diplomatic posts:

H.E. Dr. Batlang Comma Serema, outgoing High Commissioner to the Republic of Namibia, has been reassigned to serve as the Ambassador of the Republic of Botswana to the People's Republic of China. The post was previously held by the late H.E Ambassador Mr. Mothusi Palai; and

H.E. Ms. Mmasekgoa Masire-Mwamba, outgoing Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, has been reassigned to serve as the Ambassador of the Republic of Botswana to the Kingdom of Belgium and Mission to the European Union. The post was previously held by the late H.E Ambassador Mr. Samuel Outlule